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COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

AT RICHMOND, MARCH 18, 1998

APPLICATION OF

BELL ATLANTIC-VIRGINIA, INC.

CASE NO. PUC980014

To implement extended local service from its Williamsburg exchange to its Providence Forge exchange

ORDER PRESCRIBING NOTICE

On February 20, 1998, Bell Atlantic-Virginia, Inc. ("BA-VA" or "the Company") filed an application with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") pursuant to the provisions of § 56-484.2 of the Code of Virginia. BA-VA proposed to notify its Williamsburg exchange subscribers of the increases in monthly rates that would be necessary to extend their local service to include the Providence Forge exchange. The application states that telephone subscribers in BA-VA's Providence Forge exchange had earlier petitioned the Commission for local calling to Williamsburg. Using a cost study prepared by BA-VA, the Commission determined the increase in monthly rates that would result from the expansion of the Providence Forge local service area to include Williamsburg. Subscribers in the Providence Forge exchange were polled regarding their willingness to pay

higher rates for local calling to Williamsburg. The majority of those responding supported the proposal.

Cost studies have been conducted to determine the monthly rates for expanded local service from Williamsburg to the Providence Forge exchange. Because the resulting increase does not exceed 5% of the existing monthly one-party residential flat rate for Williamsburg subscribers, a poll of those subscribers is not required by § 56-484.2.

NOW, having considered BA-VA's application, BA-VA's proposed public notice, and applicable law, the Commission is of the opinion that this matter should be docketed; that BA-VA should give notice to its customers in the Williamsburg exchange of this application; and those subscribers should be permitted to file comments and requests for hearing on this application.

Accordingly,

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

- (1) This matter is docketed and assigned Case No. PUC980014.
- (2) On or before May 13, 1998, BA-VA customers who may be affected by this proposal may file with the Clerk of the Commission written comments or requests for hearing about this application. Any corporation shall be represented by counsel in accordance with Rule 4:8 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure and shall file an original and fifteen (15) copies of any comment or request for hearing on or before the deadline.

Individuals may file single copies. All comments or requests for hearing shall be filed with William J. Bridge, Clerk, State Corporation Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218; and shall refer to Case No. PUC980014.

- (3) A copy of this order and the application shall be made available for public inspection at the Commission's Document Control Center located on the first floor of the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, from 8:15 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.
- (4) On or before April 13, 1998, BA-VA publish the following notice in the Williamsburg exchange twice as display advertising (not classified advertising) in newspapers of general circulation in that exchange.

NOTICE THAT BELL ATLANTIC-VIRGINIA, INC.

PROPOSES TO EXPAND THE LOCAL SERVICE

AREA OF THE WILLIAMSBURG EXCHANGE TO INCLUDE

THE PROVIDENCE FORGE EXCHANGE - CASE NO. PUC980014

Telephone subscribers in Bell Atlantic-Virginia's ("BA-VA") Providence Forge exchange petitioned the Virginia State Corporation Commission ("Commission") for local calling to the Williamsburg exchange. Subscribers in the Providence Forge exchange were polled regarding their willingness to pay an increase in monthly rates for local calling to the Williamsburg exchange. The majority of those customers responding in the Providence Forge exchange supported this expansion of local service.

Based on BA-VA's costs, the Commission determined the monthly rates for expanded local service for Williamsburg customers to call the Providence Forge exchange (telephone

numbers beginning with 804-932 and 966). For expanded local calling to Providence Forge from Williamsburg, monthly rates would increase as follows: flat rate residential service, \$0.03; residential message rate or measured rate service, \$0.02; residential economy service, \$0.01; residential exchange only service, \$0.02; business flat rate service, \$0.11; business message rate lines or trunks, \$0.03; business measured rate lines or trunks, \$0.03 and flat rate PBX trunks, \$0.17.

Customers whose rates are not listed above or who desire more information on this proposed change should contact BA-VA's customer service center. Residential customers should call 954-6222 and businesses should call 954-6888. Copies of BA-VA's application may be reviewed at the Commission's Document Control Center located on the first floor of the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219.

Customers wishing to comment on the proposed change to their local calling area or to request a hearing on the application may do so by filing such requests or comments in writing, referring to Case No. PUC980014, with the Clerk of the Commission, William J. Bridge, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218, on or before May 13, 1998.

If the Commission receives objections or requests for hearing from the lesser of 5% or 150 of Williamsburg's customers, it may consider BA-VA's application without a hearing.

BELL ATLANTIC-VIRGINIA, INC.

(5) On or before May 13, 1998, BA-VA provide proof of the notice required above.

- (6) If the Commission receives objections or requests for hearing from the lesser of 5% or 150 of the Williamsburg exchange customers, it may consider BA-VA's application without a hearing.
- (7) On or before May 29, 1998, the Division of Communications shall file a report with the Commission on the number of objections to the proposal.